



# Recruit Assessment Program (RAP) Pilot Study at Fort Jackson, SC

Accessions Research Consortium  
27-29 January 2004

Keith G. Hauret, MSPH, MPT (LTC/Ret)  
USA Center for Health Promotion and Preventive  
Medicine

# Long-Term Objective: RAP

- Establish a program for the routine collection of computerized, baseline health data from all enlisted and officer accessions, including active duty, reserve, and National Guard:
  - Demographics
  - Medical history
  - Psychosocial
  - Occupational exposures
  - Health risk behaviors

“The need for baseline health data before a war or hazardous deployment begins is one of the critical lessons learned from difficulties answering Gulf War health questions.”

# Secondary Objectives

- Describe the health and health behaviors of new accessions
- Identify preventive services and programs that serve new accessions and reduce attrition
- Establish a database for health surveillance and longitudinal research to evaluate associations of baseline characteristics with attrition and injury

# RAP at Fort Jackson

- An IRB-approved pilot study
- Participation is voluntary
- 30,707 recruits were briefed during FY03
- 21,955 recruits completed the survey (71%)
- 121 items in the survey
- Data collection will end 30 September 2004
- No funding for the pilot study

# Preliminary Results

Example of survey items that may be associated with outcomes related to injury, mental health outcomes, and attrition during IET and 1<sup>st</sup> term enlistments

# Important Next Steps

- Solicit and submit research protocols to evaluate the association of RAP variables with important outcome measures (injury, illness, attrition)
- Seek funding that will enable this research
- Directive from Health Affairs (DoD) to implement the RAP routinely service-wide (??)
- Program funding from DoD (??)

# Research Plans

- Evaluate association of RAP variables with physical fitness, injury incidence, and attrition during IET
- Longitudinal studies to evaluate association of RAP variables to injury and attrition during 1<sup>st</sup> term enlistment
- Longitudinal studies to evaluate mental health service utilization and outcomes

Questions



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